

C. Remarks

The claims are 33-45, with Claim 33 being the sole independent claim. Claims 1-20 have been cancelled. New Claims 33-45 have been added. Support for these new claims may be found, for example, in the cancelled claims and throughout the specification. No new matter has been added. Favorable consideration of the present claims is expressly requested.

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner has required election of a single disclosed invention for prosecution on the merits in this case. The Examiner alleged the existence of two patentably distinct inventions:

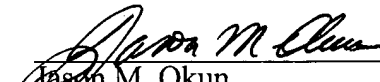
- Group I: Claims 1-11, drawn to a method for controlling odor,
 classified in class 424, subclass 406; and
- Group II: Claims 12-20, drawn to a bacterial composition, classified in
 class 435, subclass 252.1.

Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group II, claims 12-20, with traverse.

New Claims 33-45 are directed to a bacterial composition of elected Group II. Therefore, these claims should be entered and examined on the merits.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Jason M. Okun
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 48,512

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200